

Amendments to, and Listing of the Claims

1-35. (Canceled)

36. (New) A method for detecting the presence of or predisposition to an ectodermal disorder comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting the presence of a human TAJ gene or gene product in a cell of a host predetermined to be at elevated risk of having or being predisposed to a particular ectodermal disorder; and

(b) correlating the presence of the TAJ gene or gene product with a presence of or predisposition to the ectodermal disorder,

wherein the TAJ gene or gene product is a variant correlated with the presence of or predisposition to the ectodermal disorder, and

wherein the detecting step comprises detecting a TAJ gene.

37. (New) A method for detecting the presence of or predisposition to an ectodermal disorder comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting the presence of a human TAJ gene or gene product in a cell of a host predetermined to be at elevated risk of having or being predisposed to a particular ectodermal disorder; and

(b) correlating the presence of the TAJ gene or gene product with a presence of or predisposition to the ectodermal disorder,

wherein the TAJ gene or gene product is a variant correlated with the presence of or predisposition to the ectodermal disorder, and

wherein the detecting step comprises detecting a TAJ gene transcript.

38. (New) A method for detecting the presence of or predisposition to an ectodermal disorder comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting the presence of a human TAJ gene or gene product in a cell of a host predetermined to be at elevated risk of having or being predisposed to a particular ectodermal disorder; and

(b) correlating the presence of the TAJ gene or gene product with a presence of or

predisposition to the ectodermal disorder,

wherein the TAJ gene or gene product is a variant correlated with the presence of or predisposition to the ectodermal disorder, and

wherein the detecting step comprises detecting a TAJ protein.

39. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein the TAJ gene or gene product is truncated.

40. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the TAJ gene or gene product is truncated.

41. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein the detecting step is performed inferentially by determining a diagnostic sequence of the TAJ gene or gene product in the individual.

42. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein the detecting step is performed inferentially by determining a diagnostic sequence of the TAJ gene or gene product in the individual.

43. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the detecting step is performed inferentially by determining a diagnostic sequence of the TAJ gene or gene product in the individual.

44. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the detecting step is performed directly with a specific antibody.

45. (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein the detecting step is performed directly with a specific antibody.

46. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.

47. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
48. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
49. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
50. (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
51. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
52. (New) The method according to claim 42, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
53. (New) The method according to claim 43, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
54. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.
55. (New) The method according to claim 45, wherein the ectodermal disorder is an ectodermal dysplasia syndrome and the syndrome is Clouston syndrome.